



Geauga County Job & Family Services

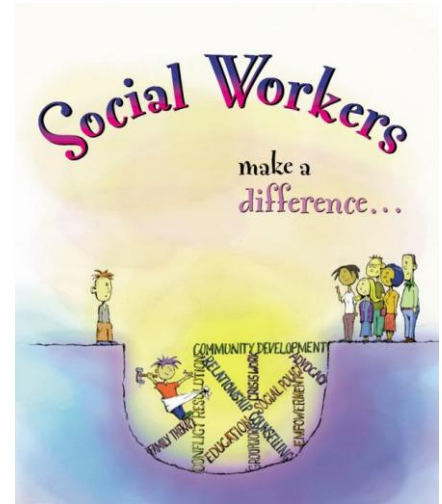
Permanency Planning

March 2011 Newsletter

March is National Social Worker Month.

The theme this year is "Social Workers Change Futures."

Social workers are found in many different places, such as schools, hospitals, medical centers, military, drug and alcohol treatment centers, government and businesses. The functions that social workers do are as varied as the places that you would find one. One definition is "Social workers help individuals, communities and groups to either enhance or restore their ability for social functioning." At some point in our lives most of us benefit from the services of a social worker. So this month take a moment to say "Thank You" to a social worker that helped change the future for you or someone you know.



Life Is Not A Race, anonymous

Do not undermine your worth by comparing yourself with others.

It is because we are different that each of us is special.

Do not set your goals by what other people deem important.

Only you know what is best for you.

Do not take for granted the things closest to your heart.

Cling to them as you would your life, for without them, life is meaningless.

Do not let your years slip through your fingers by living in the past, nor in the future.

By living your life one day at a time, you live all the days of your life.

Do not give up when you still have something to give. Nothing is really over until the moment you stop trying.

Do not be afraid to encounter risks.

It is by taking chances that we learn how to be brave.

Do not shut love out of your life by saying it is impossible to find.

The quickest way to receive love is to give love; the fastest way to lose love is to hold it too tightly.

Do not dismiss your dreams.

To be without dreams is to be without hope; to be without hope is to be without purpose.

Do not run through life so fast that you forget not only where you have been, But also where you are going.

Life is not a race,

But a journey to be savored each step of the way.

Community Information:

Training Opportunity

Part I: "Sexting: Think before you send"

Part II: "Child Sex Offenders: Things you should know"

This training is available to anyone in the community that would like to gain more information about these topics. We have heard the terms "Sexting" and "Offenders" on the internet, but do we really know what they mean and how to keep children safe. If you **don't**, then mark your calendar to join us.

When: March 29, 2011, from 6-9pm

Where: Geauga County Job & Family Services

RSVP: Rebecca Calabrese at 440-285-9141 x265

IEP Support

Do you have a child or know of a child that attends a Geauga County school? If the child has an IEP for emotionally disability, then talk to the school to see if the child qualifies to have a social worker involved with the child.

Computers for Ohioans with Disabilities

Assistive Technology of Ohio has a statewide program that helps people with disabilities obtain their own computer. For more information and eligibility requirements go to www.atohio.org.

Save the Date

7th Annual Kids Fest

When: May 14, 2011
from 10am – 2pm

Where: Metzenbaum
Center

More information
coming soon!

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

We appreciate your dedication in helping the families we work with and would like to invite you to join us at 11:30 a.m. on Friday April 1st at Geauga County Job & Family Services for a reception to kick off Child Abuse Prevention month. Light refreshments will be served and each participant will have the opportunity to plant a pinwheel. Please RSVP by Monday, March 28th to Gina Schultz at 285-1287.

The 2nd Annual Child Abuse Prevention Month 5K Race and 1 Mile Fun Walk will take place April 16th at 9:00 a.m. at Punderson State Park. Registration forms can be found online at www.geaugajfs.org All proceeds raised will go toward the funding of the Moorhead Scholarship Fund. For more information please contact Mark Clark at 285-9141.

Gauga County Maple Festival Parade. The weather made the Maple Festival Parade experience last year unforgettable, we are hoping for sunnier sky's this year. The parade is Sunday, May 1st at 3:00. What a wonderful way to end child abuse prevention month and start foster parent recognition month! Please contact Danette Richards at 285-1288 if you are interested in learning more details about walking and throwing candy on parade day.

Thank you for working hand in hand with us to prevent child abuse!



High Five Club:

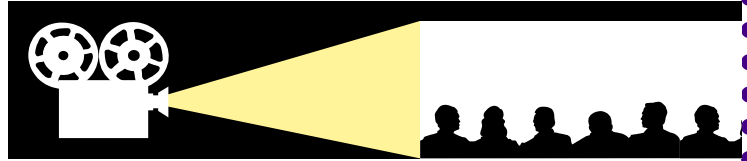
The High Five Club is a way for foster and adoptive parents and social workers to give recognition to a child who is making progress, has gotten a reward in school

or community or done something that is noteworthy for that child. To have a child featured talk to your social worker or call Kathi Serafino at 440-285-9141.

Congratulations Brandon for getting accepted into Job Corps!

Carly was 7th grade Student of the Month.

Megan was recognized by the East Geauga Kiwanis Club as an outstanding student.



“Child Spotlight of the Month”

Samantha, Raven, Dartanyon & Jillian

Enclosed with this month’s newsletter is a flyer for Samantha, Raven, Dartanyon and Jillian who are looking for an adoptive family. Could that family be you? Or do you know someone who might be able to provide the forever family that this sibling group is looking for? Take a look and let us know if you or someone you know might be interested in adopting Samantha, Raven, Dartanyon and Jillian.



This year we will be including a section that you have to decide if the statements are true or false. The answers will be in next month's newsletter.

This month test your knowledge of Disney.

1. In the movie Bambi, the rabbit friend of Bambi is Flower. True or False
2. In the Movie Beauty and the Beast, Belles father was locked in his workshop. True or False
3. Dory is the heroine in the movie Toy Story. True or False
4. Buzz and Woody belong to Alice from Alice in Wonderland. True or False
5. In Disney's Fantasia, the Sorcerer's name is Yensid, which is Disney spelled backward. True or False
6. Baloo is Mowgli's happy-go-lucky bear friend in the movie “The Jungle Book”. True or False
7. In the movie Beauty and the Beast, LeFou wants to marry Belle. True or False
8. Little Jackie Paper was the name of Puff the Magic Dragon's human friend. True or False
9. This Disney character is on the loud side, is kind, enthusiastic, a great friend and you just want to be wanted and loved, her name is Ariel from Little Mermaid. True or False
10. Donald Duck lives at 1313 Webfoot Walk, Duckburg, Calisota. True or False

February Answers

1. The color of the Rock'em Sock'em Robots were black and blue. **False, Red and Blue**
2. In the Scrabble game there are 9 “A” tiles. **True**
3. In the games of Life, the car has 8 seats. **False, 6 seats**
4. In the games of Candy Land, the playing pieces are in the shape if gum drops. **False, Gingerbread Men**
5. The game you are playing if you have a Charley Horse and an Adam's Apple is Mystery Mansion. **False, Operation**
6. In the game of Scattergories, you tie yourself up in knots. **False, Twister**
7. The number of squares on the Snakes and Ladder board is 75. **False, 100**
8. If you are playing with a Bishop, you are playing Chess. **True**
9. The game of World Domain involves taking over the world. **False, Risk**
10. The pieces to the game Kerplunk includes, marbles, a plastic tube and thin sticks. **True**

Recipes:

Creamy Ranch Pork Chops & Rice: serves 4

Ingredients:

1 T vegetable oil
4 boneless pork chops, ¾-inch thick
1 can (10 ¾ oz) cream of mushroom soup
¾ cup milk
1 package (1 oz) ranch salad dressing mix
Paprika
Flavored Rice



Directions:

1. Heat the oil in a 10 in skillet over medium high heat. Add the pork and cook until well browned on both sides.
2. Stir in soup, milk, and ½ package salad dressing mix in the skillet and heat to a boil. Reduce the heat to low. Cover and cook for 10 minutes or until the pork is cooked through. Sprinkle with paprika.
3. Serve with flavored rice.

Apple-Barley Pudding (This is an Irish Favorite)

Ingredients:

3 cups water
4 T pearl barley
1 ½ pounds apples, peeled, cored and sliced (tart, but any will work)
¾ cup heavy cream
3 T sugar
1 T lemon juice

Directions:

Bring water to boil in pan. Stir in Barley. Add apples and cook until both are soft. Pour into food processor until smooth. Put back into pan. Add sugar and lemon juice. Bring to a boil. Allow to cool. Then chill in refrigerator. Serve cool with cream mixed in.



Crafts and activities:

Shamrock Sun Chaser

Need: Construction paper cut into the shape of shamrock
Hole punch
Glue stick
Tissue or crepe paper cut into small squares

Directions:

Punch holes in the shamrock
Glue on tissue/crepe paper over the holes
Tape on the window and let the sun shine through



TRAINING REMINDERS:

- ❖ **Please remember that if there are less than 5 people signed up for a training, a week prior to the training, the training will be cancelled.**
- ❖ Even if you are not currently a certified foster or adoptive family with us, you are still welcome to attend our trainings. All we ask is that you call to register.
- ❖ To register for a training you can either call the county directly or you can call the Foster Parent Training Line at 1-866-294-3787 or for more information contact [Julie Hayden](mailto:Julie.Hayden@ocwtp.com), at 330-379-1976.
- ❖ Want to know what other trainings are being held by other counties? Visit the Northeast Regional Training Center website at <http://www.ocwtp.com/neortc.htm>

For families that would prefer to get their newsletter by email we ask that you either call Kathi Serafino, @ 440-285-1219 or send an email to serafk@odjfs.state.oh.us with your email address. We also remind you that if you need something from a previous newsletter they are archived on our website @ www.geaugaifs.org.

Do you need hours in a hurry to maintain your foster parent license?

Fourth Annual Foster Parent Training Conference

May 12-14, 2011

Summit County Children Services

Education Center Building

Akron, OH 44306

Thursday, May 12, 2011: Legal Custody: How Permanent Is It?
Trainer: Christina Zody, Time: 9am - 12pm

Thursday, May 12, 2011: Identity Theft
Trainer: Christina Zody, Time: 1 - 4pm

Thursday, May 12, 2011: Baby Sister And Me: A Plea To Keep Siblings Connected
Trainer: Anthony President, Time: 9am - 4pm

Thursday, May 12, 2011: Teen Panel: Aspects Of Positive Foster Care Placement
Trainer: Lisa Dickson w/ Guest Panelists who are Summit County youth and foster care alumni, Time: 6 - 9pm

Friday, May 13, 2011: Tug Of War: The Ins And Outs Of Power Struggles
Trainer: Jim Still-Pepper, Time: 9am - 4pm

Friday, May 13, 2011: Talk, Talk, Talk: What's Too Much? Issues Of Confidentiality
Trainer: Pam Reid, Time: 9am - 12pm

Friday, May 13, 2011: After Adoption: Understanding The Lifelong Journey
Trainer: Ann Bagley, Time: 1 - 4pm

Friday, May 13, 2011: Dealing With The Impact Of Early Sexual Trauma
Trainer: David Zidar, Time: 6 - 9pm

Friday, May 13, 2011: Protecting The Innocent: Dealing With Allegations Against The Caregiver Home
Trainer: Cathy Tiggs-Johnson, Time: 6 - 9pm

Saturday May 14, 2011: Relating To Primary Families: Understanding Challenges, Issues and Strategies For Success
Trainer: Brian Lowery, Time: 9am - 4pm

Saturday May 14, 2011: Managing The Hurt: When Your Foster Child Leaves
Trainer: Kathleen Lowery, Time: 9am - 12pm

Saturday May 14, 2011: Fostering Physical And Emotional Health In The Caregiver
Trainer: Kathleen Lowery, Time: 1 - 4pm

Geauga County Job & Family Services On-Going Training Schedule

Tuesday, March 15, 2011: Adopting Your Foster Child After Reunification Fails
Trainer: Linda Loveland, Time: 6-9pm

Tuesday, April 5, 2011: Helping Children With Self-Esteem
Trainer: Sr. Madeleine Rybicki, Time: 6 - 9pm

Saturday, April 30, 2011: Development Of Adolescents: The Effects of Abuse And Neglect
Trainer: Linda Loveland, Time: 9am - 4pm

Tuesday, May 3, 2011: Fostering Resiliency And Well-Being In Children
Trainer: Lonnie Helton, Time: 6 – 9pm

Saturday, May 21, 2011: Understanding And Building Attachments
Trainer: Trisha Martinek, Time: 9am – 4pm

Saturday, June 11, 2011: Recognizing And Responding To Children Who Have Been Sexually Abused
Trainer: Brian Lowery, Time: 9am – 4pm

Tuesday, June 14, 2011: Fostering Physical And Emotional Health In The Caregiver
Trainer: Kathleen Lowery, Time: 6 -9pm

Tuesday, June 28, 2011: I'm Bored! Developmentally Appropriate Activities
Trainer: Beth Philley, Time: 6 – 9pm

Lake County Job & Family Services
On-Going Training Schedule
177 Main Street
Painesville, Ohio 44077-3402
440-350-4218 or 440-918-4218

Thursday, March 10, 2011: Professional Boundaries
Trainer: David Zidar, Time: 6-9pm

Thursday, March 24, 2011: Understanding Family Dynamics: The Four “R” Model
Trainer: Lonnie Helton, Time: 6-9pm

Saturday, April 2, 2011: Working With Kids Who Have Experienced Loss
Trainer: Sr. Madeleine Rybicki, Time: 9am – 4pm

Tuesday, April 19, 2011: I'm Bored! Developmentally Appropriate Activities
Trainer: Beth Philley, Time: 6 – 9pm

Thursday, April 21, 2011: Educational Advocacy: Helping Your Child Succeed In School
Trainer: Kathleen Lowery, Time: 6 – 9pm

Monday, May 9, 2011: “Susceptible School Agers!” Promoting Health And Development Through A Time Of Change
Trainer: Ronna Johnson, Time: 6 – 9pm

Thursday, May 19, 2011: Opening The Door To Independent Living – Part I, Overview
Trainer: Kathleen Lowery, Time: 6 -9pm

Monday, May 23, 2011: Helping Children Deal With Feelings Before And After Visits
Trainer: Kim Langley, Time: 6 – 9pm

Wednesday, June 1, 2011: Fostering Physical And Emotional Health In The Caregiver
Trainer: Kathleen Lowery, Time: 6 – 9pm

Tuesday, June 7, 2011: Behavior Management 1 – Managing Surface Behaviors With Acting Out Children
Trainer: Brian Lowery, Time: 6 – 9pm

Tuesday, June 21, 2011: Play With A Purpose: Strategies To Enhance The Parent/Child Relationship
Trainer: Trisha Martinek, Time: 6 – 9pm

Ashtabula County Children's Services Board
On-Going Training Schedule
3814 C Court
Ashtabula, Ohio 44005-1175
440-998-1811

Tuesday, March 22, 2011: Home Invasion: Overcoming Media Madness
Trainer: Anthony President, Time: 6-9pm

Monday, March 28, 2011: Self-Injury: Assessment and Interventions
Trainer: David Zidar, Time: 6-9pm

Thursday, April 7, 2011: The Openness Puzzle: 3-2-1-Contact
Trainer: Beth Cardina, Time: 6 – 9pm

Tuesday, April 12, 2011: “Susceptible School Agers!” Promoting Health And Development Through A Time Of Change
Trainer: Ronna Johnson, Time: 6 – 9pm

Saturday, April 16, 2011: Fostering Self-Reliance In Children And Youth: Roots And Wings
Trainer: Trisha Martinek, Time: 9am – 4 pm

Tuesday, May 10, 2011: Running Away From Foster Care
Trainer: Kathleen Terry, Time: 6 – 9pm

Monday, May 16, 2011: Substance Use And Abuse Among Children And Teens: Prevention, Recognition And Intervention
Trainer: Stacy Simera, Time: 6 – 9pm

Saturday, June 4, 2011: Working With Kids Who Have Experienced Loss
Trainer: Sr. Madeleine Rybicki, Time: 9am – 4pm

Tuesday, June 14, 2011: Helping Children With Self-Esteem
Trainer: Sr. Madeleine Rybicki, Time: 6 – 9pm

Monday, June 20, 2011: Verbal De-Escalation In Child Welfare
Trainer: Brain Lowery, Time: 6 – 9pm

Ashtabula County Children’s Services Board
Pre-service Training Schedule
Trainer: Ann Bagley

The Pre-Service Sessions are being held Tuesdays starting February 22, 2011 through May 10, 2011
From 6 – 9pm.

**" We don't always know
whose lives we have
touched, uplifted and
inspired by a simple act
called kindness, because
actions many times have
unforeseen ramifications.
What's important to
remember is that you treat
EVERYONE with kindness,
even those who are rude to
you ~ not because they
deserve it, but because you
deserve it!"
Dorothy Murfin**





Samantha Raven Dartanyon Jillian
2-9-99 4-13-03 10-1-00 4-17-02

Samantha, Dartanyon, Jillian and Raven are a beautiful sibling group of four. Samantha, born 2/9/99, is the oldest. She is very outgoing.

Dartanyon born 10/1/00, is in the fourth grade and is on an IEP for Speech and Language. He has extensive needs regarding his vision due to having Strabismus. He loves to play action figures.

Jillian born 4/17/02 enjoys being a part of whatever is going on. She is a very friendly, caring and happy child.

Raven, born 4/13/03, enjoys doing "girlie" things. She loves to be part of the action and center of attention.

Samantha, Dartanyon, Jillian and Raven have experienced several losses in their lives. Many of their special needs stem from this. They are in need of a family that will be committed unconditionally to providing them a safe, nurturing environment.

Agency: Geauga County JFS
Contact: Kelly Conroy
Phone: (440) 285-1214